

Appl. No. 10/686,065  
Preliminary Amendment (RCE)

REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment is being concurrently submitted with an RCE and a one-month extension of time (relative to the Final Office Action dated January 9, 2006). This Preliminary Amendment cancels claims 1-18, without prejudice or disclaimer, reintroduces previously presented claims 19-21, and presents new claims 22-31. After entry of the foregoing amendments, claims 19-31 (3 independent claims; 13 total claims) are pending in the application.


It is respectfully asserted that the foregoing amendments to the claims place the application in condition for allowance over the prior art of record. No new matter is being added by this Preliminary Amendment, and entry thereof is respectfully solicited for consideration prior to further examination of the application.

If for some reason Applicants have not requested a sufficient extension and/or have not paid a sufficient fee for this response and/or for the extension necessary to prevent abandonment on this application, please consider this as a request for an extension for the required time period and/or authorization to charge Deposit Account No. 50-2091 for any fee which may be due.

Respectfully submitted,

INGRASSIA FISHER & LORENZ

Dated: May 9, 2006

By:   
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